

# Environmental Restoration Project



## Area of Concern (AOC) No. 1032: Building 6610 Septic System (TA-III)

ADS: 1295

Operable Unit: Septic Tanks and Drainfields

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### Site History

Historical SNL/NM Facilities Engineering drawings indicate that this system consisted of two septic tanks and two seepage pits located south of Building 6610, in TA-III. These drawings indicate that the original (northern) septic tank was plumbed to the seepage pit on the east side of and outside of the facility perimeter fence. At some point this original system was apparently augmented or replaced by a second (southern) septic tank and a second seepage pit located inside of the fence. It is assumed that this septic system was abandoned in the early 1990s when the City of Albuquerque sanitary sewer system was extended into TA-III. No other historical research has been conducted for this site.

### Constituents of Concern

Constituents of concern for this site are unknown.

### Current Hazards

No known surface hazards have been identified. Environmental characterization has not been conducted at the site; therefore potential subsurface environmental hazards are unknown.

### Current Status of Work

Samples were collected from the septic tank in 1992 and 1995 for waste characterization purposes. Residual tank contents were pumped out and the tank cleaned in March 1996.

A field inspection at the site was conducted in September 1999. The two septic tanks and the buried seepage pit (marked by yellow protective posts) inside the fence appeared to still be intact. However, no surface indication of the east seepage pit outside of the fence was found. A backhoe was therefore used at the site in March 2002 to successfully locate the seepage pit inside the fence, and attempt to locate a second seepage pit outside of and east of the facility fence. No east seepage pit was found, and only the end of a 1-ft. diameter pipe in the suspected location of the seepage pit was located. It is not known what the purpose of this small culvert or pipe was, but was assumed to be some sort of outfall from the facility. To determine if environmental contamination is present beneath this system and in accordance with agreements reached with NMED personnel, additional sampling was conducted at this site. As shown on the site map, passive soil vapor samplers were installed at six locations in the septic system and outfall area in April 2002 to detect the presence or absence of VOCs at the site. One soil sample boring was also drilled directly beneath the center of the seepage pit inside the facility fence, and a second boring was drilled at the end of the assumed outfall outside the facility fence in August 2002. Soil samples collected from these borings were analyzed for volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), total cyanide, high explosive (HE) compounds, metals, and radionuclides.

## **Future Work Planned**

This site may be selected for deeper environmental characterization sampling if analytical results from the shallow sampling indicate potentially significant contamination at depth.

## **Waste Volume Estimated/Generated**

A total of 575 gallons of effluent (including introduced water added to facilitate pumping) was removed from the septic tank in March 1996. No environmental characterization or remediation waste has been generated at the site to date.

**Information for ER Site 1032 was last updated Jan 17, 2003.**